

This legislation is similar to the legislation from my home state of Missouri where, as the law states, "The killing of an 'unborn child' at any stage of pre-natal development is involuntary manslaughter or first degree murder. (Mo. Ann. Stat. 1.205, 565.024, 565.020 (Vernon Supp. 1999), *State v. Knapp*, 843 S.W.2d 345 (Mo. 1992), *State v. Holcomb*, 956 S.W.2d 286 (Mo. App. W.D. 1997))." We make it clear back home that life is sacred and today's legislation makes it clear across the nation.

If a criminal assaults a pregnant woman and her unborn child, and injures or kills the unborn child, common sense recognizes that the criminal has harmed two victims—the mother and the child. But current federal law does not reflect this common sense recognition. Federal law (including military law) considers that such an assailant has harmed only one victim. Even if the aggressor has purposefully killed an unborn child who has been named and whose birth is eagerly anticipated, he has thereby not committed a crime under federal law, beyond the crime of the assault on the mother. The Unborn Victims of Violence Act would correct this conspicuous gap in federal law. The bill would establish that if an unborn child is injured or killed during the commission of an already-defined federal crime of violence, then the assailant may be charged with a second offense on behalf of the second victim, the unborn child.

You know, there are many out there who would rather not talk about these issues, but the fact of the matter is that it is time for us to take a look at where we have a consensus—similar to the consensus we have reached regarding partial-birth abortion. In turn, we use that consensus to work toward an end where common sense and understanding prevail while we reach out and educate each other about areas of disagreement. I believe that this, too, is one of those issues.

Mr. Speaker, Missouri is known as the Show-Me-State. At home, we show our respect for human life by protecting the unborn. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of this life saving legislation and I am hopeful that today, Congress will show its respect for life and do the same.

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CITIZEN MICHAEL LIPOF

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, the greatest strength of our democracy consists of those citizens who take their obligations of citizenship seriously. We are very well served in particular by men and women who are active in our private sector, creating wealth, but who do not allow this to preclude meaningful civic participation. One of the best examples of this whom I have encountered is Michael Lipof of Newton, Massachusetts. Mike Lipof has been an extremely constructive force in the economy of the Greater Boston area. He has been a leader in the real estate field, and is currently serving in a very important capacity as the President—and a very operational hands on President—of New England's largest Jewish cemetery, Sharon Memorial Park. At the same time, he has been very active in both public and community affairs. He has been a

leading member of the Jewish community of Greater Boston, in partnership with his wife, Rabbi Emily Lipof. And he started a family tradition of participation in public affairs as an Alderman in the city of Newton, which is now being carried on by his son, Richard Lipof. And Mike was a very able member of the Board of Trustees of the Newton Free Library, a very important entity in our city. I have known Mike Lipof in a number of capacities, and in every one of these, private, public, elective, and communitarian, he has been an extraordinary asset. And of course he and Emily have been proud and loving parents and grandparents as well. I congratulate the people at Sharon Memorial Park for their decision to honor Mike Lipof for his extraordinary range of contributions to all of us and I am delighted to join in that congratulation, and in presenting to my colleagues an example of the kind of active, creative citizenship on which our country thrives.

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TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL E. HURST

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Michael Hurst, who passed away on March 22, 2001. Michael Hurst was president of 15th Street Fisheries, a restaurant in Fort Lauderdale. Mike was a cornerstone in the Fort Lauderdale community and, as his representative in Congress, I was impressed by his tireless enthusiasm for promoting education in the restaurant industry.

Many times Mike opened the doors at 15th Street Fisheries to give to others in need and to show them what hospitality truly was. He was not only a professor at Florida International University, he brought the classroom into his restaurant. Wherever he was he took the opportunity to tell others about his passion for education and the restaurant industry.

Mike was a regular visitor throughout the years to my office in Washington, D.C. It was evident that he had an unwavering commitment to the industry, and his "We're Glad You're Here" button is a positive reminder of his excitement for restaurant issues.

Mike was a remarkable leader and it was my privilege to serve as his representative. He combined business acumen with compassion and energy to ensure that those in the restaurant industry have educational opportunities. His many contributions will remain with us in Florida's 22nd congressional district and across the nation.

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INTRODUCTION OF FOCUS ON COMMITTED AND UNDERPAID STAFF FOR CHILDREN'S SAKE ACT

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues Mr. GILMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. SCOTT, and Mrs. DAVIS in introducing the FOCUS Act. This legislation would

be an important step in increasing child care quality for all children.

As we all know, high quality child care can play an important role in healthy child development and school-readiness. One of the most critical components of quality child care is a stable and qualified teaching staff. Yet, child care staff—who have the responsibility of helping guide children's development—are among the lowest paid workers in America. In 1999, the average hourly wage for a child care provider was \$7.42, which is approximately \$15,430 annually. Moreover, most providers do not receive health insurance or paid leave. Academic and government studies conclude that low pay is one of the leading causes of poor quality child care. The annual turnover rate is about 30 percent. Low wages keeps qualified providers from remaining in the field and deters new providers from entering the field. A report released April 29th by the Center for Child Care Workforce and the University of California Berkeley found that centers are losing qualified staff because of low wages and are forced to hire less qualified replacements. The six-year study also found that not only are wages extremely low, but they are not keeping pace with cost of living increases. States report centers are closing or turning away children because they cannot properly staff their programs.

FOCUS directly addresses the problems low pay creates by providing stipends to qualified child care staff based on the level of education. This legislation would be a mechanism to assist states increase the pay of child care workers and to improve the overall quality of child care. The bill would supplement wages by a minimum of \$1000 per year for providers with child development associate credentials and a minimum of \$3000 per year for providers with B.A.'s in the area of child development. These stipends will help attract new qualified workers to the field and increase the retention and skill level of current workers. FOCUS also would provide funds for scholarships so that we can continue to increase the qualifications of the child care workforce.

Research on early childhood and brain development clearly demonstrates that the experiences children have early in life have a decisive, long-lasting impact on their later development and learning. We cannot expect children to transition to kindergarten and succeed in school if we do not take the necessary steps to provide quality care in the years prior to school entry. The average quality of child care is far poorer than what it should be in a country as wealthy and committed to our children's future as is ours. It is time we work to make quality child care for all children a national priority. Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of the House to join me and co-sponsor the Focus Act.

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SALUTING THE 2001 JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS, YOUTH VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute twenty-eight outstanding young Kansans from Johnson County, Kansas, who will